

## **AGENDA**

### **CONNECTICUT BOARD OF EXAMINERS FOR OPTOMETRISTS**

**Wednesday, June 12, 2019  
9:00 AM**

**Department of Public Health  
410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut  
Third Floor – Hearing Room**

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

- I. **MINUTES**  
Review and approval of the minutes of the March 27, 2019 meeting.
  
- II. **NEW BUSINESS**  
Investigations Update

#### **ADJOURN**

*The following minutes are draft minutes which are subject to revision and which have not yet been adopted by the Board.*

A meeting of the **Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists** was held on **March 27, 2019** at the Department of Public Health, 410 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, Connecticut, in Conference Room C on the third floor.

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BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman  
Susan Barrett  
Carol Goldberg, Esq.  
Lawrence Lefland, OD  
Joseph Pavano, III, OD  
Regina A. Strand, OD  
Lawrence M. Sweeney

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Joanne V. Yandow, Hearing Officer  
Alfreda Gaither, Hearing Officer

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Dr. Blondin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**I. MINUTES**

The minutes from the November 28, 2018 meeting were approved on a motion by Ms. Barrett, seconded by Dr. Lefland.

*Dr. Pavano arrived at 9:04 a.m.*

**II. OFFICE OF LEGAL COMPLIANCE**

B. Anthony Rao, OD – Petition No. 2018-667

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health, presented a Consent Order in this matter. Attorney Stephanie Sobkowiak was present on behalf of Dr. Rao.

Ms. Goldberg made a motion, seconded by Ms. Barrett, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed with all in favor. Dr. Blondin signed the Order which imposes a reprimand and a \$9500.00 civil penalty.

*Dr. Strand arrived at 9:08 a.m.*

Andrew Freilich, OD – Petition No. 2018-686

Staff Attorney Joelle Newton, Department of Public Health, presented a Consent Order in this matter. Attorney John Morrone was present on behalf of Dr. Freilich.

Ms. Goldberg made a motion, seconded by Ms. Barrett, to approve the Consent Order as written. The motion passed with all in favor. Dr. Blondin signed the Order which imposes a reprimand and a \$9500.00 civil penalty.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

Phyllis Liu, OD – Petition No. 2018-85

Dr. Liu was present with Attorney Gregory Pepe regarding her request for modification of a Consent Order which was adopted by the Board on September 12, 2018. Staff Attorney Diane Wilan was present for the Department of Public Health.

*Mr. Sweeney arrived at 9:16 a.m.*

The Board heard argument from Attorney Pepe and Attorney Wilan. Following discussion and advice from Hearing Officer's Yandow and Gaither, Dr. Strand made a motion, seconded by Dr. Lefland, to modify the Consent Order with regard to the need for a guardian to be present when patients under 18 are seen; random alcohol screening; and respondent's search for another optometrists or optician to be employed in the practice. The motion passed with all in favor.

Dr. Lefland made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sweeney, to authorize Dr. Blondin to sign the modification Order when written.

**IV. Adjourn**

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m. on a motion by Dr. Pavano, seconded by Dr. Lefland.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Matthew Blondin, OD, Chairman  
Connecticut Board of Examiners for Optometrists